http://comment-fic.livejournal.com/218256.html?thread=45944208#t45944208

zekkass
Nov. 8th, 2011 08:40 pm (UTC)
AU setting, R, kinda dark?

Gabriel is crouched by the wall, teeth bared in what's not a smile, and Michael sees too little of his brother before him.

He had known that Gabriel had fled Heaven, and his scouts had reported that Gabriel had relinquished his Grace to become completely human, but that shouldn't be able to change the core of what Gabriel is.

Michael takes a step forward, uncertain of how to approach this verbally. The messenger is needed, the messenger has been found, but finding those he sends to bring home their wayward brother standing in Heaven with empty hands...Gabriel is human. He should be unable to turn away any angel. He shouldn't want to.

He notes that Gabriel's arms are red, marked with scratches.

"Gabriel," he says at last.

"Just a dream," Gabriel says. "Just a dream go away. My name is *not* Gabriel - "

"Brother."

Gabriel slams his hand against the scrawled sigil on the wall, but Michael is an archangel, and shuts down its effects almost immediately. He stays, even if he glows for a moment.

"That should - " Gabriel's eyes are bloodshot, Michael notes. He looks pale, waif-like. Weak.

Gabriel slowly stands, but he's wobbling, and Michael narrows his eyes when he gets a better look at Gabriel's life-force. It's pale, and if this were any other human he would name them dead soon.

Gabriel raises a shaking hand and points a finger at him.

"You monsters will leave me alone. *Alone!* Before the rest of my life goes to Hell...!"

"I am an angel of the Lord, and I am here to bring you home to Heaven, Gabriel." Michael says, emphasizing the word Heaven. "Don't you want to come home?"

Gabriel's eyes dart to the side, and Michael can *see* how weak he is. He takes Gabriel's arms in his hands and Gabriel jerks back - his hands come away covered with blood.

"...you've been writing those sigils," Michael realizes.

"Monster."

"Will you curse me so when you remember who you are?" Michael asks, and he lays two wet fingers on Gabriel's forehead.

"N - " Gabriel's cry of protest is cut off as he is given memory and Grace and everything that makes him *him*, and Michael waits, fingers still on his forehead, for Gabriel to thank him.

What happens next is a surprise: Gabriel thrusting him away with weak human strength and Gabriel glaring at him.

"*Bastard*," Gabriel hisses, and Michael hears the authority of the messenger in his anger. "If I wanted it I would have taken it back! Leave me out of your petty feud with Lucifer!"

He vanishes before Michael can answer, and when Michael extends his power after him - all traces of Gabriel are gone.

He's back at square one in finding his messenger.